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THE PLOTTER

CLACKAMAS COUNTY AREA T/S
USERS GROUP
NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 3 ** NUMBER 10

OCTOBER 1985

EDITED BY: ROD GOWEN
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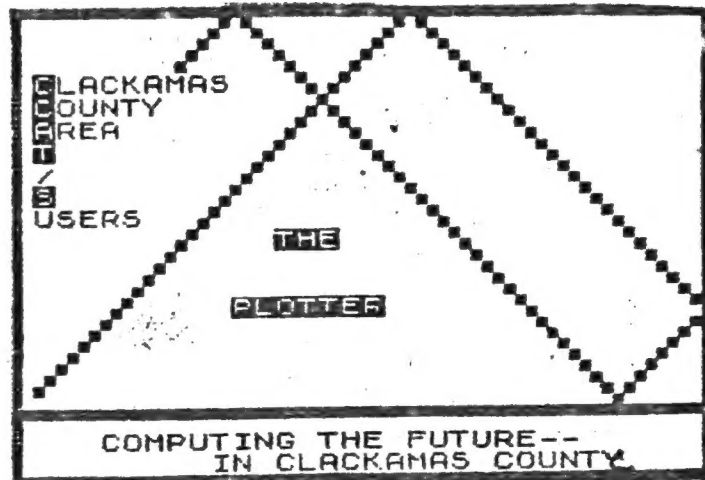
MEETING

The OCTOBER meeting will be:

on: THUR., OCTOBER 3, 1985
at: 7:30 P. M.
in: COMMUNITY ROOM
FAR WEST FEDERAL S&L
OREGON CITY SHOPPING CTR

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ELECTION NOTICE

PLEASE NOTE!

THE END OF THE YEAR IS ONLY 3 MONTHS AWAY AND THAT MEANS THE TIME IS RAPIDLY APPROACHING WHEN YOU WILL EXERCISE YOUR MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS AND VOTE FOR NEW OFFICERS TO LEAD OUR GROUP. IF YOU WANT A CHOICE, BE AT THE OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER MEETINGS TO NOMINATE MEMBERS FOR OFFICE. IF YOU DO NOT PARTICIPATE, YOU FORFEIT THE RIGHT TO VOICE YOUR OPINIONS.

THE ELECTION WILL AGAIN BE DONE WITH MAIL IN BALLOTS TO HELP THOSE OF YOU WHO CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE DECEMBER MEETING.

SECRETARY'S SECRETS

The SEPTEMBER meeting was held on SEPTEMBER 5, 1985, at the above location. Our Chairman, DICK WAGNER, called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM. As there were again not enough members present to make a majority, it was decided to have a question and answer session after the Treasurers Report. As usual, there were a lot of questions. Some came from newer members, and some from older ones. There were 13 people present.

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Dennis Jurries had his AERCO DD I/F to demo. Dick Wagner had his modular 1000 system there. It was not quite complete yet, but he will have it complete soon. There was other software and hardware to see and try. There is always a good supply from RMG Enterprises, as well as others.

I hope that we will be seeing more of our members at the meetings now that summer is about over. We sure have missed you!

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

With all the rain that has come to us since the beginning of September, I find it hard to beleive that summer is not officioilly over yet! I do knoe that I have spent a lot more time on the old T/S this past month. That for two reasons: 1) I do not like to do outside activities in the rain, and 2) I have been laid off from my full time job. This is no great hardship (yet!) but I would rather be working. I have however, not been wasting my time. I have spent many extra hours at the keyboard. For the most part it has been Writing. Writing this newsletter, writing articles for other newsletters, and writing for mysekf. I hope that the improvement is evident, other-wise I may think that I have been wasting my time.

I'm not going to get the soapbox out this month. Only a comment: I enjoy doing this newsletter, but doing most of it myself (the writing, for the most part, has been done by 3 or 4 of our members) for the past 3 years has been a bit much. I hope to see more input from within and from without our membership.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S COMPUTER

by: DICK WAGNER

Attendance at meetings has not been so good this summer. I had hoped that interest would be stimulated by the opportunity to hear about and see some of the latest in TS equipment and supplies. I guess that meeting time may be a problem now that school has begun. We will be discussing this at the upcoming meeting. If you will not be at the meeting, please call Rod Gowen at 655-7484. We did quite good when we met on second Fridays. Some members may recall that the first Thursday was chosen because several members could not attend on Fridays. Those same members have been conspicuous by their poor attendance. If the meeting room is available, I would like to go back to the old schedule. This should attract more younger members again.

BITS & BYTES

October is here, here is Septembers' news-

KNIGHTED COMPUTER-has cut a lot of prices. Some of the Quicksilva software has been dropped to as low as \$8.50. The new NIGHT GUNNER-was \$19.95, now is \$16.95. If you are interested in any Quicksilva or Digital SW, call your local dealer, RMG ENTERPRISES, for new prices.

TIME DESIGNS MAGAZINE-is celebrating 1 year in publication. Lets all wish TIM WOODS many more years with TDM. Keep up the great work, Tim!

T-S HORIZONS-is a little late with issue # 15. However, don't count them out. According to Richard Duncan, the editor of TSH, # 15 will be in the mail by the 19th of September. If you subscribe, you should have your copy by the time you read this. Let's all continue to support this and all other TS dedicated magazines. We can't afford to be without them.

PORTUGUESE DISK DRIVES-are now being sold by two companies. Zebra Systems and English Micro Connection. Zebra calls it the Zebra Disk Drive System and EMC calls theirs the EMC Portuguese Disk Drive System. They are both selling the 3" disks as well. EMC is also selling the 2068 computer from Portugal. Zebra has so far not taken on the computer.

ZEBRA SYSTEMS & SUNSET ELECTRONICS-are both advertising a "Back By Popular Demand" sale of the ZX81 Computer Kits(Complete) for only \$49.95.

A & J MICRODRIVE-has announced that it is going back to version 1 of the model 2000 drive. That is the one that takes the larger wafer. The same wafer as the Damco machine. Jim Howell, owner of A & J, said that his decision to return to version 1 was based on the fact that Entrepo, the maker of the wafers and drive mechanisms for version 1, are now in a more stable position financially. That was his main reason for going to version 2. He was worried about losing the supply of wafers if Entrepo went under. He has also put an extra 2 feet on his printer cable, making it 6 feet long. He said that if someone wanted a longer cable, it would have to be specially made and would cost around \$35 for a 10 foot cable.

SINCLAIR RESEARCH-has not been sold out after all. According to reports, Sir Clive is still in charge and thanks to a huge order from a large department store chain in England (#20 million over a period of time) the company may pull through. With the US market about to be hit with a big ad campaign, the company may yet make a comeback. Lets hope so, Sir Clive has given us all a lot to thank him for.

EXTENDED PROBLEM

by: DICK WAGNER

Extended cables on the 2040 printer may run into problems when used with a TS 1000 computer equipped with a large keyboard.

The first symptoms of a problem showed up when I connected my extended cable printer to the 1000/Cricket House Keyboard. All keys worked fine except the Shifted S, D, F and G. There was no action at all on these keys.

My first idea was to reduce the signal coupling between wires in the round shielded 3' cable. A new 13 wire flat cable was installed with a ground wire between each signal wire. This was an improvement, bringing all keys to life except the Shifted S.

The next step was to try a different KB resistor for KB0. Cricket House supplies a set of 5 resistors about of 56K OHMS to parallel the regular 10K KB resistors. I found that a 1.5K resistor at KB0, which is the Shift key resistor, did the trick. Now I am able to use the large keyboard connected to the 1000 computer with an 18" cable and the 2040 with a 3' cable.

MICROWAFER

DIRECTORY/INDEX

SYSTEM

by: Rod Gowen

This program was designed for use by anyone who uses a micro drive and would like an organized index. Others may want to use it as a model to design an indexing system for disk or even cassette.

The first program is the wafer directory. With it you will be able to list up to 45 wafers by number and title. After the main menu has LOADED, you can add, edit or LOAD an index for a particular wafer.

The second program is the individual index, to be used for each wafer in the directory. After this one has been LOADED you can add or change, SAVE or go back to the main menu to select another index. This program will be used for all wafers.

If you are not one who wants to or enjoys typing in your own programs, I will make available, a copy of both of these programs on your choice of wafer types for the modest sum of \$7.50, including the wafer.

First, type in the main menu program, make sure it runs, and SAVE it on your wafer. Then, type in the individual wafer index, check it for errors and SAVE it right after the main menu on the wafer. Save the index as many times as you have wafers to index, up to 45.

Now, to set it up and get it running. LOAD the main menu, BREAK into basic and LIST 32. Follow the instructions there to add names to the existing numbers of the directory. You must then SAVE the completed directory onto a fresh wafer.

Next, LOAD the index program and type in "A/C" to add the names of the files or programs on the wafer. Be sure to change the wafer number in LINE 60, and the SAVE "@#," in LINE 170 for each wafer you set up. If you are not used to SAVEing more than 9 files on a wafer, just open your users' manual to the CHARACTER SET appendix and use the symbols that come after 9 to SAVE each file past 9. That is, :, ; etc.

I hope that these programs prove useful to you. If you have any trouble with the LISTings or operation of them, just write or call and I will be glad to help you.

WAFER INDEX DIRECTORY

1) records	16)	PPP	31)	555
2) recipes	17)	qqq	32)	666
3) books	18)	rrr	33)	777
4) tapes	19)	sss	34)	888
5) games	20)	ttt	35)	999
6) videos	21)	uuu	36)	AAA
7) ggg	22)	vvv	37)	BBB
8) hhh	23)	www	38)	CCC
9) iii	24)	xxx	39)	DDD
10) jjj	25)	yyy	40)	EEE
11) kkk	26)	zzz	41)	FFF
12) lll	27)	111	42)	GGG
13) mmm	28)	222	43)	HHH
14) nnn	29)	333	44)	III
15) ooo	30)	444	45)	JJJ

ENTER # OF WAFER INDEX TO LIST

```

5 REM
10 REM
15 REM main menu
20 BEEP VAL ".4",VAL "10": POK
E VAL "23658",VAL "8"
25 CLS : PRINT INVERSE VAL "1"
;"*****"
**"; INVERSE VAL "0"
30 PRINT INVERSE VAL "1";"****
"; INVERSE VAL "0";" WAFER INDE
X DIRECTORY "; INVERSE VAL "1";"
****";AT VAL "2",VAL "0";"*****
*****"; INU
ERSE VAL "0"
32 REM

```

```

35 PRINT AT VAL "4",VAL "0";"
1) records 16) PPP 31) 555
40 PRINT " 2) recipes 17) qqq
32) 666
45 PRINT " 3) books 18) rrr
33) 777

```

```

50 PRINT " 4) tapes      19)   sss
34)   888      "
55 PRINT " 5) games     20)   ttt
35)   999      "
60 PRINT " 6) videos    21)   uvu
36)   AAA      "
65 PRINT " 7)   999     22)   vvv
37)   BBB      "
70 PRINT " 8)   hhh     23)   www
38)   CCC      "
75 PRINT " 9)   iii     24)   xxx
39)   DDD      "
80 PRINT "10)  jjj     25)   yyy
40)   EEE      "
85 PRINT "11)  kkk     26)   zzz
41)   FFF      "
90 PRINT "12)  lll     27)   111
42)   GGG      "
95 PRINT "13)  mmm     28)   222
43)   HHH      "
100 PRINT "14)  nnn     29)   333
44)   III      "
105 PRINT "15)  ooo     30)   444
45)   JJJ      "
110 PRINT AT VAL "20",VAL "0";
INK VAL "7"; PAPER VAL "2";"-----"
115 PRINT AT VAL "21",VAL "1";"
ENTER # OF WAFER INDEX TO LIST"
120 INPUT A$
125 IF A$="" THEN GO TO 25
130 IF VAL A$ < VAL "1" OR VAL A$ > VAL "45" THEN GO TO VAL "25"
140 LET A$="@"+A$
145 LOAD A$
9999 SAVE "01,menu" LINE 20: VER
IFY "@menu": GO TO VAL "25"

```

```

-----
WAFER # 1 DIRECTORY
-----

```

```

1)          16)
2)          17)
3)          18)
4)          19)
5)          20)
6)          21)
7)          22)
8)          23)
9)          24)
10)         25)
11)         26)
12)         27)
13)         28)
14)         29)
15)         30)

```

```

//////////////////
*ENTER "A/C" - EDIT *S" - SAVE*
* FOR ANOTHER, ENTER "FWD" *

```

```

10 REM *****
20 REM *****
25 POKE VAL "23658",VAL "8": B
EEP VAL ".4",VAL "10": INK VAL "
6": PAPER VAL "1": BORDER VAL "1
"
30 CLS : PRINT INVERSE VAL "1"
;"*****"
**"; INVERSE VAL "0"
40 PRINT INVERSE VAL "1";"****
"; INVERSE VAL "0";TAB VAL "28";
INVERSE VAL "1";"****"; INVERSE
VAL "0"
50 PRINT INVERSE VAL "1";"****
*****"; I
NVERSE VAL "0"

```

```

55 REM
*****
*****
*****
*****
*****
58 LET N$="2,1"
60 PRINT AT VAL "1",VAL "6";"W
AFER # 1 DIRECTORY"
65 PRINT AT VAL "3",VAL "0";"
1)          16)
70 PRINT " 2)          17)
75 PRINT " 3)          18)
80 PRINT " 4)          19)
85 PRINT " 5)          20)
90 PRINT " 6)          21)
95 PRINT " 7)          22)
100 PRINT " 8)          23)
105 PRINT " 9)          24)
110 PRINT "10)         25)
115 PRINT "11)         26)
120 PRINT "12)         27)
125 PRINT "13)         28)
130 PRINT "14)         29)
135 PRINT "15)         30)

```

```

140 PRINT INK VAL "6"; PAPER VA
L "2";"//////////////////
*****"
145 PRINT "*****ENTER ""A/C"" - EDI
T *""S"" - SAVE*"
150 PRINT " * FOR ANOTHER, ENT
ER ""FWD"" *"
155 INPUT A$
160 IF A$="A/C" THEN LIST 55: S
TOP
165 IF A$="FWD" THEN LOAD "@men
u"
170 IF A$="S" THEN SAVE "@"+N$
LINE 1: VERIFY "@"+N$(3 TO ): GO
TO VAL "25"
180 IF A$ <> "A/C" OR A$ <> "FWD" O
R A$ <> "S" THEN CLS : GO TO VAL "
25"

```

In case anyone has any trouble making out the characters in Inverse on the program listing, here are those lines:

Listing # 1:
5 REM wafer index directory
10 REM (copyright symbol)1985
RMG SOFTWARE
32 REM
TYPE IN THE NAMES OR
CODES FOR EACH OF UP
TO 45 WAFERS. WHEN
FINISHED, GO TO 20

Listing # 2:
5 same as Listing # 1
10 same as Listing # 1
55 REM
* INSERT WAFER NUMBER *
ENTER NUMBERS IN LINE 58
FILL IN BLANKS WITH TITLES
OF WAFERS IF DESIRED.

TS COMPUTER REPAIRS

by: DICK WAGNER

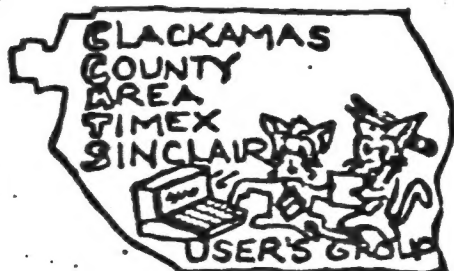
Some of the readers were aware of my equipment failure with my 2068 computer. It's lucky that I have a 1000 with a Cricket House Keyboard and a word processor program to fall back on.

The failure was my own fault. I connected a peripheral with a defective IC chip. This effectively fried all 6 of the ROM IC chips in the 2068.

A month ago I shipped the computer to TS Connection in Cincinnati, Ohio. I requested an estimate of cost and time to repair the unit. After waiting a month for an answer, I wrote again, including a copy of the UPS shipping form and my phone number. I received a call shortly after writing. TIM CARVER of TS Connection, explained that a letter had been mailed, giving information. As I had not answered, he had attempted to reach me by phone, using my address.

The good news was that it was repairable, and, on receipt of my check, repairs and shipment would be made that day.

MORAL?— Give all of the information possible with the unit so that the firm can contact you if they wish to furnish the best possible service.



COMMENTS ON COMPUSERVE

Rod Gowen
CIS# 70436,1542

CIS: That stands for COMPUSERVE INFORMATION SERVICE. The definition is for those of you not familiar with the service.

I am, in this column, going to let all of you know what the pulse of T/S world is doing outside of our own local area. I hope that it will help you in some small way.

Back for a second column, I hope that someone got some good out of the first column. I have been back on the system during the past month. I have to say that it would be nice to see more of our local people on CIS, but it may be that they do not have the time or inclination to spend the time or the money for the service.

As was the case last time, over 80% of the news on the TIMEX FORUM was concerning Disk Drive systems. A few of the users have the TIMEX DD from PORTUGAL. They are also using 3" drives as well as other sizes. One of the nice things about looking in on the service is the ability to get in on some good deals that someone else digs up and passes along. One of the deals that came up was a dual disk 3" drive with cabinet and power supply from Amdek III for only \$125+ s&h. They will work on almost any Shugart compatible system including the TIMEX DD.

DID YOU KNOW?

We've gone International! With the help of TIME DESIGNS MAGAZINE our group has received correspondence from G.U.T.S.. That is the Mexican National Sinclair User Group. They are in TLAXPANA, MEXICO. They are going to subscribe to THE PLOTTER. We hope that they enjoy what we have to offer.

There is always a lot of software being discussed. The people on CIS are always coming up with improvements to existing program listings as well as writing new and original software for use with our machines. They are doing a lot in the way of setting up BBS systems. Several of the people on the service are the same ones who came up with improvements for the modem software for the 2050 and the Byte-, Back. They are even now talking about how to use the Radio Shack modem that has been on sale. One man, ED GREY, in the Los Angeles area has successfully set up a BBS using the 2068 and 2050 with his own software.

There was a bit of a question as to whether T-S HORIZONS was ever going to put out a #15. Jack Roberts of TS Connection in Cincinnati, called them and they told him that #15 would be in the mail by the 18th of Sept. We who have subscriptions should have them by the time you read this.

I will say that if all you want to do is look into the TIMEX FORUM, I think that the service would, to me at least, not be worth the \$6/hr online time charge plus the \$.50/hr surcharge. If however, you make use of a few of the several hundred other services available, then I believe the cost to be worth every cent of the cost.

As there are so many services offered on CIS, I am, with this issue, going to print a portion of the CIS INDEX each month, starting with the A's. Here is the first installment:

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More on CIS next time.



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